

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
PUBLIC AND SUPPORT
SERVICES GROUP

777 East Rialto Avenue • San Bernardino, CA 92415-0770 • (909) 387-8300
Fax (909) 387-2022

Kari Verjil
Registrar of Voters

October 27, 2008

TO: Precinct Inspectors

SUBJECT: ELECTION OBSERVER PANEL

This letter introduces «Title» «First_Name» «Last_Name», whom I have appointed to the Election observer Panel for the November 4, 2008 Presidential General election. Members of the Election Observer Panel are invited to observe activities related to the administration of an election, including visiting polling places.

No person, including a member of the Election Observer Panel, may interfere with the operation of polling places. «Title» «Last_Name» and other members of the Election Observer Panel may ask you to explain certain operations and procedures.

If you have any questions, please call me at 909-387-2083.

Thank you for your cooperation and your service to our county's voters.

Sincerely,

Kari Verjil
Registrar of Voters
County of San Bernardino

MARK UFFER
County Administrative Officer

NORMAN A. KANOLD
Assistant County Administrator
Public and Support
Services Group

Board of Supervisors
BRAD MITZELFELT First District DENNIS HANSBERGER Third District
PAUL BIANE, Chair Second District GARY C. OVITT, Vice Chair Fourth District
JOSIE GONZALES Fifth District

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Kari Verjil
Registrar of Voters

OBSERVER PANEL PLAN Presidential General Election November 4, 2008

I. County and System Information

1. Name of County: San Bernardino County
2. Name of Contact: Kari Verjil, Registrar of Voters
3. Contact's Phone Number: (909) 387-2083
4. Vendor: Sequoia Voting Systems
Voting System: Sequoia 400C Central Count Optical Scan System/AVC Edge II with Verivote
5. Date: September 24, 2008

II. Purpose

The purpose of an Election Observer Panel is to:

1. Provide an avenue for public observation of and input into the election process.
2. Assist in ensuring the integrity of the election process.
3. Encourage participation and build voter confidence in the election process.

III. Invite

Between E-60 and E-30, send letters of invitation to the following:

1. County Grand Jury
2. Political Party Central Committee Members
3. League of Women Voters
4. San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors
5. City Clerks
6. Media

IV. Appointment Letters (for introduction to precinct workers)

Any group or individual desiring to be provided a letter of introduction for presentation to precinct board members at a polling site, may obtain one by providing the Registrar of Voters a signed written request no later than 10 days prior to Election Day. Any requests for polling place location information must be made at the same time.

MARK UFFER
County Administrative Officer

NORMAN A. KANOLD
Assistant County Administrator
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V. General Rules for Observers

Observers are responsible for:

1. Checking in at each site, whether polling place or central counting site.
2. All observers must wear ID badges.
3. Maintaining a professional manner while observing the election processes.
4. Ensuring they do not interfere with the elections process.

Observers MAY:

1. Observe the proceedings at the polls, including the opening and closing procedures.
2. Obtain information from the precinct index that is posted near the entrance.
3. Make notes and watch all procedures.
4. View all activities at the central counting site on election day.
5. View the canvass of the vote activities following the election.
6. View absentee and provisional ballot processing.
7. Ask questions of staff or voters at the polls.
8. Ask questions of supervisors at the central counting site.

Observers may not:

1. Interfere in any way with the conduct of the election.
2. Touch any voting materials or equipment or sit at the official worktables.
3. Converse with voters (within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place) regarding the casting of a vote, or speak to a voter regarding his or her qualifications to vote.
4. Display any election material or wear campaign badges, buttons or apparel.
5. Wear the uniform of a peace officer, a private guard, or security personnel.
6. Use cellular phones, pager, two-way radios, cameras, audio or video recording devices, or camera phones inside the polling place and/or within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place.
7. Talk to central counting site workers while they are processing ballots.
8. Use the telephones, computers or other polling place facilities at polling places or the central counting site.
9. Touch election personnel.
10. Eat or drink in the polls or the central counting site.
11. Assist in operations at any polling place.

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Kari Verjil
Registrar of Voters

October 1, 2008

(Name)
(Street Address)
(City, State, Zip)

Dear XX XXX:

The San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters is inviting representatives of the County Grand Jury, qualified Political Parties, League of Women Voters, County Board of Supervisors and the City Clerks of San Bernardino County to observe the activities associated with the Presidential General Election being held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 including the start of processing of vote by mail ballots on Friday, October 24 at 8:00 a.m. All election processes are open to the public as permitted by Election Code 15104 and are shown on the enclosed Notice along with the dates and times each will occur.

If you or another member of your organization would like to act as an observer during the election, please notify Kathy Jackson by mail, by phone at (909) 387-2083 or by email at kjackson@rov.sbcounty.gov.

Thank you for your interest in protecting our electoral system. If you have any questions, please call Kathy at (909) 387-2083.

Sincerely,

KARI VERJIL
Registrar of Voters

KV:kj

Enclosure

MARK UFFER
County Administrative Officer

NORMAN A. KANOLD
Assistant County Administrator
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